

Proclamation: Governor Schwarzenegger declares July as “Smog Awareness Month!”

“The state has become a world leader in environmental protection, which means our children and future generations are breathing healthier air and learning how to live “greener.” But there is still a lot of work to be done. The **Governor’s proclamation** encourages all Californians to do their part to maintain their vehicles, and help improve air quality and reduce pollution.

The Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR) is spearheading an effort to educate and inform California motorists on how they can do their part. BAR’s Web site, www.smogcheck.ca.gov, is a great resource for **clean driving tips**, **consumer Q & A’s about smog check**, and **locating Smog Check stations**. There is even a link to the Air Resources Board’s Web site which allows you to **report a smoking vehicle**.

BAR has launched the Drive Healthy Campaign, which seeks to promote healthy air through healthy vehicles. This campaign uses black balloons, which are iconic of pollution, to warn people of the danger to our air. The www.drivehealthy.com Web site offers **tips on keeping your vehicle emissions low and improving your gas mileage**.

Tips to Drive Healthy and save money:

- Change engine oil, and change air, oil and fuel filters at the manufacturer’s suggested intervals.
- Perform all other service and maintenance at manufacturer’s suggested intervals.
- Check tire pressure frequently.
- Check tire condition for abnormal wear patterns.
- Inspect hoses, wiring and belts regularly.
- Service engine promptly when warning lights appear.
- Never modify your vehicle’s emission control system.

To support Smog Awareness Month, BAR participated at the **Clean Air Car Show & Film Festival** in South Pasadena on July 20th and the **Green Street Car Show** in San Jose on July 26th. BAR also participates in clean air events throughout the year, so be sure to visit the **Outreach Calendar of Events** on DCA’s Web site at www.dca.ca.gov to view all our **outreach efforts across the state**.



DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
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Are you interested in becoming an Automotive Technician and participating in helping to clean the air?

Here's a list of automotive associations that can provide you with more information about educational and job opportunities:

- Automotive Service Excellence at www.asecert.org
- National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation at www.natef.org
- International Automotive Technician Network at www.iatn.com
- Automotive Service Councils of California www.ascca.com
- California Automotive Business Coalition at www.calabc.org
- California Service Stations and Automotive Repair Association at www.cssara.org
- Clean Air Performance Professionals at clubs.hemmings.com/clubsites/capp/
- California Automotive Teachers at www.calautoteachers.com
- The National Motorists Association at www.motorists.com

Many other government agencies are also revving up by launching their own initiatives to help reduce smog and pollution. The **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency** has created an online **Green Vehicle Guide**, which will help you choose the cleanest and most fuel-efficient vehicle that meets your needs. **They've also published an online document which presents information on how to maintain your car properly and drive wisely.**

The Bureau of Automotive Repair continues to work towards better air quality in California through its **Consumer Assistance Program**. This program helps qualified motorists with up to \$500 in repairs that will allow them to pass Smog Check. The program also pays \$1,000 to retire vehicles that can't pass Smog Check.

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